

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 594 - HB 892**

February 23, 2013

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Establishes a rebuttable presumption of substantial harm to a child if visitation with the child's grandparent is not granted when the child's parent is deceased and the parent that is deceased is the child of the grandparent. The rebuttable presumption applies regardless of whether the child's parent dies before the child was born, preventing the grandparent from forming an existing relationship with the child.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions:

- Under current law, if a child's parent is deceased and a grandparent who is petitioning for visitation with the child is the parent of the deceased parent, then there is a rebuttable presumption of substantial harm to the child if visitation is not granted based upon the cessation of the relationship between the child and the grandparent.
- The presumption will be applicable in state trial courts, juvenile courts, and other local courts with domestic relations jurisdiction. According to the Administrative Office of the Courts, the bill will not affect the caseloads of these courts. The fiscal impact of the bill on state and local courts will be not significant.
- According to the Department of Children's Services and the Department of Human Services, the bill will not have a programmatic effect on the departments. The fiscal impact of the bill on these departments will be not significant.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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